

## **Webinar: Supporting SMEs in response to the COVID-19 pandemic in Asia-Pacific**

22 July 2020, 16.00-17.40 hrs (BKK time zone)

Register: [https://undp.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_dxrxC36NSAWhwCC8S2IAPQ](https://undp.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_dxrxC36NSAWhwCC8S2IAPQ)

### **About the Panelists and Moderator**

**Mr. Jorge Chediek**

**UNOSSC Director and Envoy of the Secretary-General on South-South Cooperation**



Since October 2015, Mr. Jorge Chediek has been the Director of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, leading United Nations system-wide promotion and coordination of South-South cooperation for development. In March 2016, Mr. Chediek was appointed by the United Nations Secretary-General as his Envoy on South-South Cooperation. Prior to this, Mr. Chediek served as the UN Resident Coordinator/United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Resident Representative in Brazil (2010-2015). In that capacity, he was also the Director of the International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth, UNDP's global forum for policy dialogue and South-South learning on social development innovations. He served as Resident Coordinator/UNDP Resident Representative in Peru (2005-2010); United Nations Resident Coordinator/UNDP Resident Representative in Nicaragua (2001-2005); Preceding his United Nations career, Mr. Chediek worked at the Department of Legislative Analysis of the Argentinean Congress and as an independent consultant assisting in the design of financial investment systems in Argentina.

**Dr. Denis Nkala**  
**Regional Coordinator and Representative, UNOSSC Asia and the Pacific Office**



Denis Nkala (Ph.D.) is the Regional Coordinator for Asia-Pacific in the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation. He has worked in the Asia-Pacific region (2006-2012 and 2017- present). He has worked extensively with countries in the region including China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Republic of Korea and Thailand. In 2009, he co-wrote a publication on South-South and triangular cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region. Denis Nkala studied Economics and Business Administration (B.Sc.), Applied Economics (M.Sc.) and Applied Management and Decision Sciences (Ph.D.). His previous assignments include New York, Iraq and Zimbabwe. Denis is a national of Zimbabwe.

**Dr. Mia Mikic**  
**Director, Trade, Investment and innovation Division, United Nations ESCAP**



Mia Mikic is Director, Trade, Investment and innovation Division in United Nations ESCAP. She also coordinates the Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT), an open network of research and academic institutions and think-tanks in the Asia-Pacific region and covering all key means of implementation of the Sustainable development Goals. Previously, she was Professor of International Economics at the University of Zagreb, and Senior Lecturer at the University of Auckland. She is the author of a number of reports, papers and has edited or co-edited several volumes. She oversees preparation of Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Report, a flagship publication in area of trade and investment. Her current work focuses on the impacts of trade liberalization, services trade liberalization, non-tariff protection, frontier technologies use for inclusive future of work, and evidence-based policymaking in trade, investment and innovation. She has a Doctorate in Economics from the University of Zagreb.

**Dr. Jomo Kwame Sundaram**  
**Malaysian Economist**



Jomo is a Malaysian economist who received the Wassily Leontief Prize for Advancing the Frontiers of Economic Thought in 2007. He was a member of the National Economic Council, chaired by the last Malaysian Prime Minister, and the five-member Council of Eminent Persons appointed by him to advise the new Federal Government in May 2018. Jomo served as an economics professor until 2004, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development in the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) during 2005–2012, and then as Assistant Director-General and Coordinator for Economic and Social Development at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome during 2012–2015.

**Dr. Marion Jansen**  
**Director of the Division for Market Development and Chief Economist at the International Trade Centre (ITC)**



Marion Jansen is Director of the Division for Market Development and Chief Economist at the International Trade Centre (ITC) in Geneva. She oversees ITC's work on export strategy and trade facilitation and ITC's contributions to G20 processes. Ms Jansen previously held senior positions in the WTO and the International Labour Office. She has published widely on international trade and global economic governance, notably co-editing the volumes "Internationalization of Financial Services" and "The Use of Economics in International Trade and Investment Disputes". Ms Jansen holds a PhD in economics from the Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Spain) and has lectured in multiple academic institutions, including the University of Geneva and the World Trade Institute (Bern). A German national, she grew up in the Netherlands. Next to German and Dutch, she speaks English, French, Italian, and Spanish.

**Ms. Xiaoyue Wang**  
**Transfer Pricing Practice Leader, KPMG in China**



Madam Wang is the head of transfer pricing in KPMG China. She has led various large transfer pricing engagements for MNCs, including bilateral APA, MAP, TP defence, BEPS documentation and global value chain restructuring, etc. Madam Wang is a member of the Transfer Pricing Subcommittee of the Committee of Experts in International Cooperation in Tax Matters of the United Nations, and served as a member of the above UN Committee and as an Executive Committee Member of the International Fiscal Association (IFA). Prior to joining KPMG China in 2016, Madam Wang was the Deputy Director General of the International Taxation Department of the State Taxation Administration (STA) of China. She led the development, drafting and implementation of all major transfer pricing, APA, and anti-avoidance initiatives, both in terms of legislation and tax administration. She represented the Chinese government in international negotiations on tax policy and administration.

**Ms. Sara Elder**  
**Senior Economist and Head, Regional Economic & Social Analysis (RESA) Unit, ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok**



Sara Elder is Senior Economist and Head, Regional Economic & Social Analysis (RESA) Unit, ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok. RESA oversees multi-country, multi-disciplinary and inter-sectoral research and policy analysis related to key issues and themes of relevance to the Decent Work Agenda and its implementation in Asia and the Pacific. Prior to her transfer to Bangkok, Sara spent five years as Chief Technical Advisor on the ILO Work4Youth Project and more than ten years working in the area of labour market information and analysis in the Employment Trends Unit. She has written extensively on issues of labour market transitions of young people, labour market and employment trends. She holds a MSc in Economic History from the London School of Economics.

**Dr. Wimonkan Kosumas**  
**Deputy Director-General, Office of Small and Medium Enterprises Promotion, Thailand**



Wimonkan Kosumas is the Deputy Director-General from the Office of Small and Medium Enterprises Promotion in Thailand. She served as a Speaker of the Customer Protection Law Revision Committee of the National Legislative Assembly of Thailand in 2016 and was the chair of Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) working group in 2015 and chair of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) SME Working Group from 2013 to 2014. Dr. Kosumas holds a PhD in foreign affairs from the University of Virginia and has previously held positions in Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Office of the Prime Minister of Thailand.

**Ms. Barbara Meynert**  
**Senior Advisor to the Fung Group, member of the Executive Committee of the UN ESCAP Sustainable Business Network**



Barbara Meynert is Senior Advisor to the Fung Group and a member of the Executive Committee of the UN ESCAP Sustainable Business Network. Ms Meynert is business and thought leader with executive expertise across a broad range of sectors in Asia and Internationally. She serves on the Hong Kong Cyberport Advisory Panel and the FinTech Advisory Council of the Astana International Financial Centre. She is Adjunct Professor at the University of Hong Kong and Vice-Chair of the Hong Kong-Asean Economic Cooperation Foundation. Barbara Meynert is involved with the digital technologies that are transforming our world and providing new opportunities for SMEs. She is engaged in blockchain-based initiatives designed to empower SMEs on the Digital Silk Road, and is actively collaborating with the International Chamber of Commerce on a global campaign to help ensure the availability of trade finance to SMEs that will enable trade during and after the Covid-19 pandemic.